

# United Nations

## Press Release

Office of Public Information  
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Thirty-third General Assembly  
Special Political Committee  
36th Meeting  
PM SUMMARY



GA/AH/1479  
27 November 1978

### SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE -- TAKE 2

This afternoon's meeting was called to order by the Chairman of the Special Political Committee, RODOLFO PIZA ESCALANTE (Costa Rica), at 3:42 p.m.

WELLINGTON FRIDAY, Minister of Education of Grenada, read out the text of what he called "a very informative document" sent to his delegation by Gordon Cooper, former United States astronaut, who was to have appeared here today as part of his delegation but who had been unable to be present.

Mr. Cooper, he said, had stated:

"I believe that these extra-terrestrial vehicles and their crews are visiting this planet from other planets, which obviously are a little more technically advanced than we are here on earth. I feel that we need to have a top level, co-ordinated programme to scientifically collect and analyse data from all over the earth concerning any type of encounter, and to determine how best to interface with these visitors in a friendly fashion. We may first have to show them that we have learned to resolve our problems by peaceful means, rather than warfare, before we are accepted as fully qualified universal team members. This acceptance would have tremendous possibilities of advancing our world in all areas. Certainly then it would seem that the United Nations has a vested interest in handling this subject properly and expeditiously."

Mr. Cooper had stated that he was not an experienced UFO professional researcher but he felt he was "somewhat qualified to discuss them since I have been into the fringes of the vast areas in which they travel. Also, I did have occasion in 1951 to have two days of observation of many flights of them, of different sizes, flying in fighter formation, generally from east to west over Europe. They were at a higher altitude than we could reach with our jet fighters of that time".

Mr. Cooper had stated that most astronauts were "very reluctant to even discuss UFO's due to the great numbers of people who have indiscriminately sold fake stories and forged documents abusing their names and reputations without hesitation". Those few astronauts who had continued to have a participation in the UFO field had had to do so very cautiously. "There are several of us who do believe in UFO's and who have had occasion to see a UFO on the ground, or from an airplane. There was only one occasion from space which may have been a UFO."

Extract from UN Press Release GA/AH/1479 dated 27 November 1978.